

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-15 are pending, in which claims 3-4 are currently amended, and claims 12-15 are newly presented. No new matter is introduced.

The Office Action mailed February 3, 2005 objected to claim 4 and rejected claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 10 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on *Hypponen et al.* (US 2003/0191957) in view of *Hodges et al.* (US 6,035,423); claims 2, 4, 7, and 9 over *Hypponen et al.* and *Hodges et al.* further in view of *Almogly et al.* (US 2002/0194489); and claims 6 and 11 over *Hypponen et al.* and *Hodges et al.* further in view of *Caccavale* (US 2002/0129277).

Claim 4 is amended as helpfully suggested by the Examiner in response to the objection. Claim 3 is amended to fix a typographical error. The Specification is amended to update a cross-reference to a co-pending application.

The rejection of claims 1-11 is respectfully traversed because neither *Hypponen et al.* nor *Hodges et al.* teach or otherwise the features of the claims. For example, independent claim 1 recites (emphasis added):

1. (Original) A network security system to be deployed between **a plurality of intranets belonging to respective organizations** and an internet backbone, comprising:

- a scanning system **coupled to the intranets** for scanning incoming electronic mail for malicious code;
- an anti-virus server coupled to the intranets for downloading anti-virus code to clients coupled to the intranets; and
- a switch coupled between the internet backbone, the scanning system, and the anti-virus server, said switch configured for:
 - directing incoming electronic mail from the internet backbone to the scanning system.

Accordingly, claim 1 recites a “scanning system **coupled to the intranets** for scanning incoming electronic mail for malicious code” in a “network security system to be deployed

between a plurality of **intranets belonging to respective organizations** and an internet backbone.” This feature is not taught or otherwise suggested in either *Hypponen et al.* or *Hodges et al.*

Hypponen et al. is directed to distributed computer virus detection and scanning (Title). Referring to FIG. 1 and the Abstract, *Hypponen et al.* describes a “method of detecting viruses in a computer network 1 comprising intercepting data at at least one data transit node 4 of the network 1. The transit node 4 . . . transfers the identified data to a virus scanning server 7 over the network 1.” However, *Hypponen et al.* only shows one computer data network 1 in addition to the Internet 5 and has no disclosure of a “plurality of intranets,” much less a “scanning system coupled to the intranets.” Although the Office Action, p. 2, reads an “intranet” on the network 1 of *Hypponen et al.*, every feature of the claims, including the plural “intranets,” must be found in the applied references, and *Hypponen et al.* lacks the recited plural “intranets.”

Hodges et al. too fails to disclose the plural “intranets” recited in the claims. Though the Office Action did not rely on *Hodges et al.* for this claim feature, it is evident from FIG. 10 of *Hodges et al.*, that there is only one corporate computer network 1006 on its side of the internet 1004.

Independent claim 3 too is allowable over *Hypponen et al.* and *Hodges et al.* because neither reference shows “a scanning system coupled to the intranets for scanning incoming electronic mail for malicious code.” As for independent claim 5, neither *Hypponen et al.* nor *Hodges et al.* show a “plurality of scanning systems coupled to the intranets for scanning incoming electronic mail for malicious code.”

Independent claim 8 and 10 recite: “downloading anti-virus code to clients coupled to the intranets.” As neither *Hypponen et al.* nor *Hodges et al.* show plural intranets, they do not render independent claims 8 and 10 obvious.

Dependent claims 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, and 11 are patentable for at least the same reasons as their independent claims and are individually patentable on their own merits. For example, none of the secondary references, *Almogy et al.* and *Caccavale*, disclose the “plurality of intranets belonging to respective organizations.”

As another example, *Almogy et al.* does not disclose the “decoy server coupled to the intranets for masquerading as a legitimate server and logging activity on communications received via the internet backbone” as recited in claims 2 and 4. In fact, *Almogy et al.* does not even show a “decoy server” nor a server that masquerades as a legitimate server as recited in claim 2, but what it calls “decoy addresses.” Paragraph 153 (p. 7) of *Almogy et al.* states: “one or more decoy addresses are inserted into either or both address book **102** and folders **104**.” *Almogy et al.*’s decoys are entities that are inserted into an address book; they are not servers.

Dependent claim 7 recites “a plurality of decoy servers coupled to the intranets for masquerading as legitimate servers and logging activity on communications received via the internet backbone.” Since *Almogy et al.* does not even show one such decoy server, it clearly does not show a plurality of such decoy servers.

Moreover, dependent claim 9 recites: “simulating the decoy server as a legitimate server to the suspicious traffic.” *Almogy et al.*’s decoy addresses are not simulated as a legitimate server.

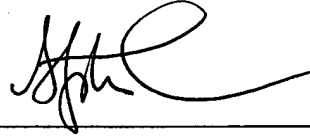
New dependent claims 12-15 further recite directing sanitized incoming electronic mail to the recipients on the intranets.

Therefore, the present application, as amended, overcomes the objections and rejections of record and is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested. If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the

undersigned attorney at 703-425-8516 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

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